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Thailand

DISCOVER THE TREASURES OF A KINGDOM



Kanchanaburi

TOURIST INFORMATION



MYANMAR

LAOS

VIETNAM

● CHIANG MAI

THAILAND

● KANCHANABURI

● BANGKOK

● PATTAYA

CAMBODIA

● KO SAMUI

● PHUKE

MALAYSIA

Kanchanaburi Province

Area: 19,486 square kilometres

Population: 730,000 (1993)

Accessibility: road & rail from Bangkok

Provincial capital: 128 kilometres west of Bangkok

Major occupations: farming

Major products: gemstones & agriculture

Major industries: farming & tourism

Major neighbouring provinces: Nakhon Pathom.

Ratchaburi, Suphan Buri

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Introduction

Kanchanaburi is Thailand's fourth largest province. Kanchanaburi covers some 19,486 square (and oftentimes mountainous) kilometres, and borders Myanmar (Burma) to the west of Bangkok.

Kanchanaburi is the site of the world-famous *Bridge Over The River Kwai*, immortalised in books and movies, and is noted for rugged natural beauty where mountains and river valleys have inspired development of hydro-electric power and where labyrinthine dam reservoirs provide further scenic elements to the province's natural beauty.

Beyond the compact provincial capital, some 130 kilometres, and a comfortable two-hour drive, from Bangkok, where the Kwai Yai and the Kwai Noi rivers unite to form the Mae Klong River, Kanchanaburi unfolds in progressively arresting scenic beauty in a landscape characterised by several waterfalls, caves once inhabited by Neolithic man, national parks and tranquil riverine and reservoir settings.

Opportunities abound for bucolic living aboard rafts on dazzling rivers and reservoirs, and provide the focal point for memorable holidays for nature lovers who delight in natural surroundings and pleasures without sacrificing basic comforts.

Local Culture

Kanchanaburi's inhabitants are largely engaged in agriculture, and are mostly of Thai ancestry with notable Mon and Karen minorities. Rural dwellers enjoy folk music and dances dating back at least 500 years and which feature distinctive songs and long drums. Such performances are re-enacted during popular festivals each year at Amphoe Phanom Tuan.

Recommended Itinerary

Day 1

Early morning departure from Bangkok by road. Visit the world's tallest Buddhist monument at Nakhon Pathom. Proceed after lunch to Kanchanaburi. Check in to hotel. Visit River Kwai Bridge. Dine beside river.

Day 2

Morning departure for Bo Phloi district to visit Jewellery Handicraft Centre where locally mined star sapphires are fashioned into jewellery creations, the Tham Lod Park, and Kanchanaburi Safari Park during afternoon return to provincial capital

Day 3

Early morning departure for Srinagarind Dam, and thence by boat to Sri Nagarind National Park to visit Huay Kamin waterfall. Mid-afternoon return for overnight stay in Kanchanaburi.

Day 4

Morning departure for Prasat Muang Singh and Ban Kao museum. Lunch at Saiyok Yai waterfall before proceeding to Sangkla Buri for overnight stay. Evening visit to Three Pagodas Pass.

Day 5

Morning elephant trek, river rafting, afternoon return to provincial capital, with options for golf, or rail journey from Nam Tok station along last remaining section of 'Death Railway'.

Day 6

Morning departure for Bangkok by road, or rail, or neighbouring provinces, or extension of Kanchanaburi sojourn.



City Attractions

The provincial capital is a relatively new town, dating merely from 1831. Major tourism attractions are inextricably connected with the Second World War, and more specifically, the years 1942 through 1945.

The Bridge Over The River Kwai

Internationally famous, thanks to several motion pictures and books, the black iron bridge was brought from Java by the Japanese army and reassembled under Japanese supervision by Allied prisoner-of-war labour as part of the 'Death Railway' linking Thailand with Burma. Still in use today, the bridge was the target of frequent Allied bombing raids during 1945, and was rebuilt after the war ended. The curved spans of the bridge are the original sections.

The bridge, which spans the Kwai Yai river some 4 kilometres northwest of the Tourism Authority of Thailand's Kanchanaburi office on Saeng Chuto Road, is the focal point of a riverside area of restaurants, souvenir, handicraft and jewellery shops.

Second World War-vintage steam locomotives, and a peculiar hybrid road/railcar from the same era comprise a small Railway Museum on the bridge's eastern approach.

Japanese War Memorial

This occupies a small plot of riverside land just south of the bridge.

OPPOSITE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM:
The world-famous bridge, the Allied war cemetery, and but one of the many beautiful waterfalls awaiting visitors beyond the provincial capital

The Kanchanaburi War Cemetery

On Saeng Chuto Road, opposite the Railway Station, this immaculately maintained enclave contains the remains of 6,982 Allied prisoners of war who perished during the construction of the 'Death Railway'. An estimated 16,000 Allied prisoners of war, and 49,000 forced labourers, died during the construction of the 'Death Railway' and Bridge over the River Kwai.

The Chung-Kai War Cemetery

2 kilometres south of town, on the bank of the Kwai Noi River, this occupies the former site of the Chung-Kai Prisoner of War Camp. This second cemetery is more peaceful, attractively landscaped, and contains some 1,750 remains.

The JEATH War Museum

This enclave in the riverside precincts of Wat Chaichumphon has been constructed largely in the form of an Allied prisoner-of-war camp. The name JEATH is derived from Japan, England, America, Australia, Thailand and Holland. The thatched detention hut with cramped, elevated bamboo bunks contains photographic, pictorial and physical memorabilia dating from the Second World War. Several prisoners of war who survived appalling conditions have donated items from that time to add to the museum's authenticity.

Opening hours: 8.30 AM to 6.00 PM daily

Admission fee: 20 baht

Wat Tham Khao Poon

1 kilometre southwest of the Chung-Kai War Cemetery, this Buddhist temple is locally renowned for a cave containing stalactites and stalagmites, and many beautiful Buddha images.

Out-of-City Attractions

Essentially, there are two major land routes for exploring main conveniently accessible tourism attractions in Kanchanaburi. The more western Route 323 largely parallels the Kwai Noi River to the Khao Laem Dam reservoir (153 kilometres from the provincial capital). Route 3199 follows the Kwai Yai River to Sri Nagarind Dam (69 kilometres away from the provincial capital).

Route 323

Major attractions along, or near, Route 323, and within 250 kilometres of the provincial capital, include:

Phu Phra Cave

15 kilometres from town, this cavern is where a legendary character from Thai literature is said to have studied magic.

Muang Singh City

Well signposted from Route 323, and 43 kilometres from town, this ancient site is located on a steep bank of the Kwai Noi River where the waterway narrows and becomes fast flowing. The 800-year-old city ruins are of considerable archaeological interest, and the principal structure, the Khmer Prasat Muang Singh (Tower of the City of Lions) is believed to have been the westernmost outpost of the Angkor-centred Khmer empire. Skeletal remains dating back some 2,000 years have been unearthed, and a wide range of artifacts, including temple carvings, religious statuary, implements and pottery shards indicate the once-thriving city must have been inhabited from approximately the 12th to 14th centuries.

Admission fee to the Prasat Muang Singh complex is 20 baht.

Ban Kao Museum

8 kilometres from Prasat Muang Singh, and 35 kilometres from Kanchanaburi, this also overlooks the Kwai Noi River. The museum was constructed beside a Neolithic burial site discovered by an Allied prisoner of war during the construction of 'Death Railway'. Some 4,000 years ago, Neolithic man lived, roamed and hunted beside the Kwai rivers, sheltering beneath rock overhangs or in nearby caves. The Ban Kao museum houses skeletal remains, pots, axe heads, jewellery made from animal bones, and other artefacts dating from that era.

Sai Yok Noi Waterfall

Also known as Khao Phang Waterfall, 60 kilometres from town on Route 323, this is the first of several waterfalls. The roadside cascade is best visited between July and September, when water is most plentiful, and is located 2 kilometres north-west of Nam Tok Railway Station, the terminus of the branch line originating in the provincial capital and which crosses the world-famous bridge.

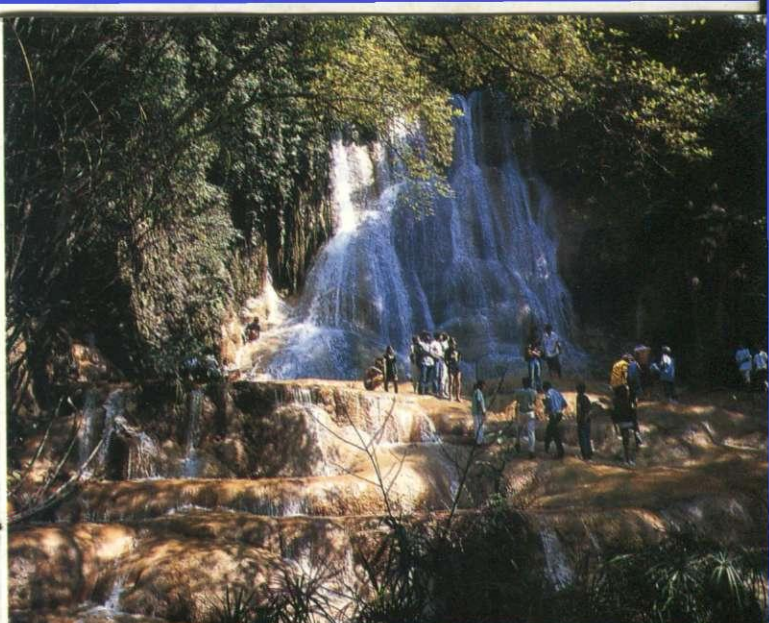
The Lawa Cave

75 kilometres from town, this largest cave in the area has stalactites and stalagmites in several chambers. Visitors may take boats from the Kwai Noi River Pak Saeng Pier, at Tambon Tha Sao (southwest of Nam Tok Railway Station and Sai Yok Noi Waterfall) to explore this cave, and travel afterwards upstream to the riverine Sai Yok Yai Waterfall, 104 kilometres from town.

(See TRANSPORTATION for further details)

Sai Yok Yai Waterfall

This flows directly into the Kwai Noi River, and is the most popular attraction in the 300-square-



OPPOSITE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM:
Beautiful waterfalls and caves
characterise the Kanchanaburi
countryside, and the Three Pagodas
Pass marks the Thai border with
Myanmar (Burma)

kilometre Sai Yok National Park. The park contains several interesting caves besides the Lawa. The Daowadung Cave, which also entails a river trip for visits, is the most popular. South of the Sai Yok Yai Waterfall, is another cascade flowing into the river, the Nam Jone Waterfall. Wildlife in Sai Yok's deciduous forests include small mammals such as bats, squirrels, and deer, and numerous bird species, including wreathed hornbills and blue-winged pittas. Human presence at Sai Yok is known to date back to the Stone Age, and the Sai Yok Yai Waterfall has been repeatedly celebrated in Thai poetry and song. Bungalow accommodation, river rafts and camping facilities are available.

Hin Dat Hot Springs

130 kilometres from town, these occupy a hollow some 3 kilometres northeast of Route 323.

Pha That Waterfall

The three-tiered cascade, 140 kilometres from town, is some 12 kilometres northeast of Route 323, along the same track.

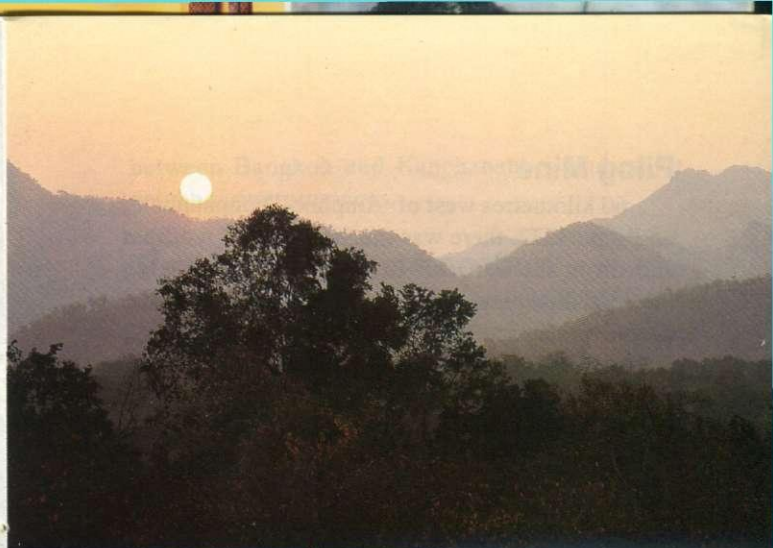
Khao Laem Dam

153 kilometres from town, this imposing structure has a 9-hole golf course, tennis courts, guest house and motel accommodation, and a scenic reservoir upon which several private raft complexes offer opportunities for boat rides, swimming and fishing.

(See ACCOMMODATION for further details.)

Areas beyond Khao Laem Dam meriting visits either edge the extensive reservoir or nestle against the Myanmar border.

OPPOSITE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM:
Kanchanaburi's rugged landscape attains a mysterious mood near sunset, popular raft accommodation, and the riverside Sai Yok waterfall, celebrated in poetry and song



Pilog Mine

60 kilometres west of Amphoe Thonphaphum, on Route 3272, there was much mining of wolfram and tin in the Tanaosri Mountain range marking the Thai-Burmese border. A temperate fruit and decorative winter plant orchard, Pilog Hill, 32 kilometres from the amphoe, can be visited *en route*.

Sangkla Buri

This petite settlement, some 225 kilometres from Kanchanaburi, edges the northernmost extremities of the Khao Laem reservoir. The scenic 75-kilometre route from Khao Laem largely parallels the reservoir, passes several raft complexes, botanical gardens and roadside cascades, and vistas of partly submerged trees crowding the reservoir banks.

Three Pagodas Pass

This even smaller settlement, 241 kilometres from Kanchanaburi, marks the rugged Thai-Myanmar border, and is the site of a small but thriving border market. Visitors are allowed to enter the neighbouring Burmese settlement between 6.00 AM and 6.00 PM (when the border is closed). The three miniature pagodas are memorials to what was the traditional invasion route favoured by Burmese soldiers during the Ayutthaya period (1350-1767).

Wat Wangka Wiwekaram

This extensive temple on the southern outskirts of Sangkla Buri edges the Khao Laem reservoir. The complex is constructed in an unusual pastiche of Thai, Indian and Burmese Buddhist architectural styles, and the abbot is highly revered among local people, including tribal folk and Burmese.

Sangkla Buri Forest Tours

Certain Kanchanaburi travel agents offer one-day elephant-trekking and rafting tours in the immediate vicinity of Sangkla Buri. Visitors are advised to contact either local travel agents or the Kanchanaburi TAT office for current details, since the tours are *not always* conducted on a daily basis.

Thung Yai Sanctuary Park

Northeast of Sangkla Buri, this sanctuary occupies a terrain of forested mountains and high plains, and hosts numerous protected wildlife species including tigers, bears, elephants and deer. The area is necessarily rugged, remote, and demands 4-wheel-drive vehicles for exploration. Special permission from the Forestry Department is needed for admittance. Visitors interested in entering the area are required to contact the Forestry Department, either in Bangkok or in Kanchanaburi.

ROUTE 3199

Major attractions along Route 3199 include beautiful waterfalls in three national parks.

Bo Phloi

Some 40 kilometres from Kanchanaburi, and just off Route 3086, this area is famed for locally-mined blue sapphires and semi-precious materials such as onyx. A Jewellery Handicraft Centre enables visitors to see how these materials are made into finished jewellery creations.

Kanchanaburi Safari Park

This brand new enclave, near Bo Phloi, dominated by a man-made hill adorned with decorative pavilions, hosts numerous African and Asian mammals, including giraffes, zebras, lions, tigers and elephants in carefully landscaped environs.

Chaloem Rattanakosin National Park or Tham Than Lod

97 kilometres from Kanchanaburi, and north of Bo Phloi, along Route 3086, this 54-square-kilometre park encompasses peaceful forests, waterfalls and several caves. The 300-metre long Than Lod Noi Cave near the park headquarters is the most popular attraction. Bungalow accommodation and camping facilities are available.

Erawan National Park

65 kilometres from Kanchanaburi along Route 3199, this 550-square-kilometre national park is the site of the 7-tiered Erawan Waterfall, widely regarded as being one of Thailand's loveliest cascades. A mountainside forest setting includes dense bamboo groves which support numerous bird species. The park's other major attraction is the spectacular Prathat Cave which contains monumental stalagmites. Bungalow accommodation and camping facilities are available.

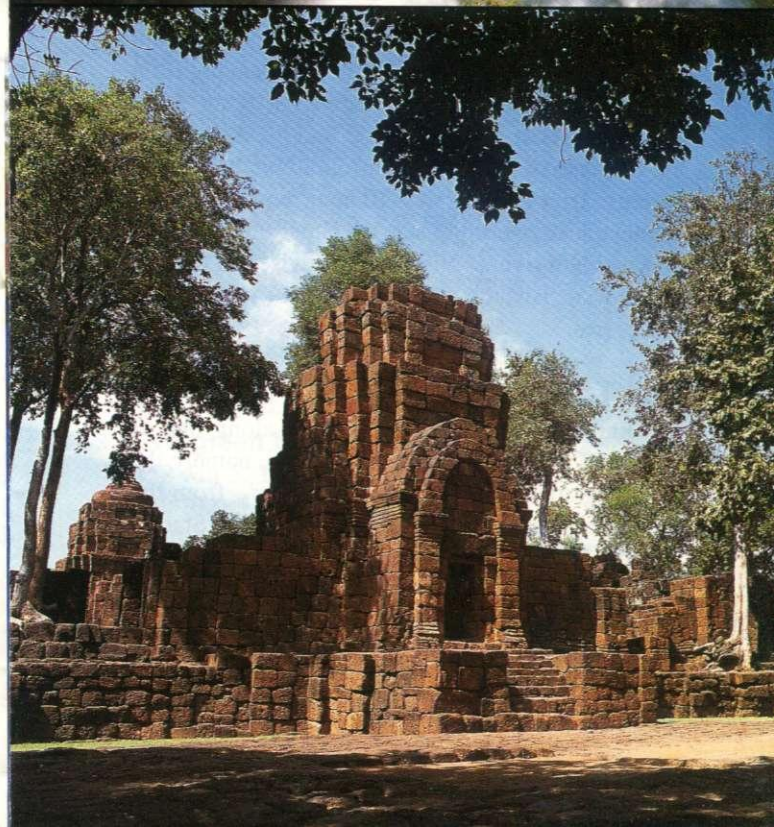
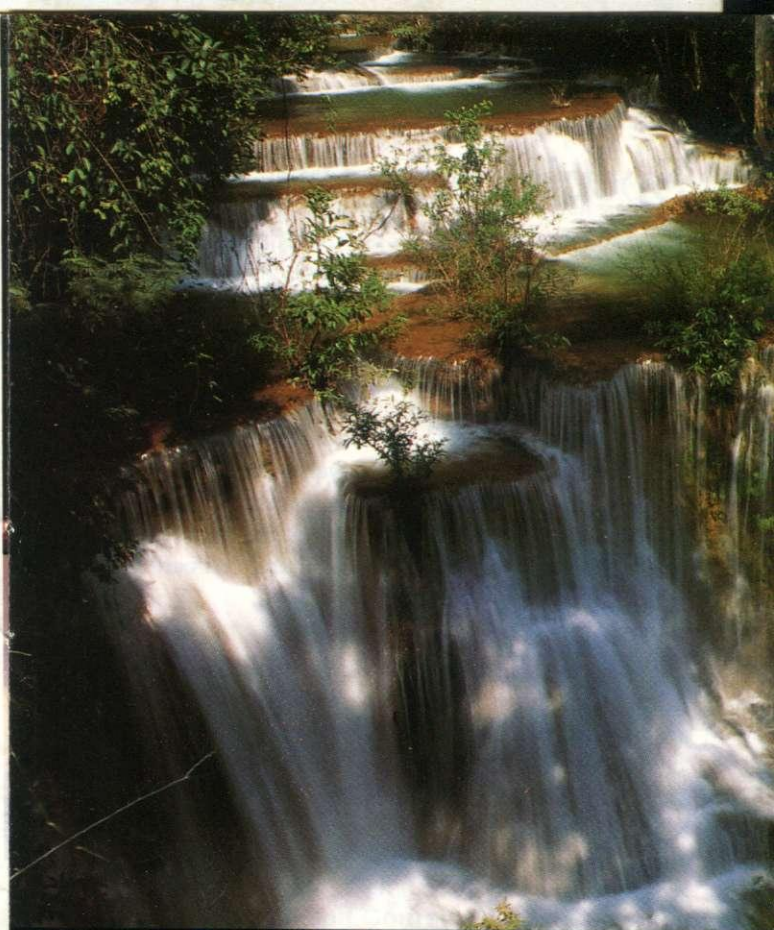
Sri Nagarind Dam

69 kilometres from Kanchanaburi, and just 4 kilometres north of the Erawan national park, this massive structure marks the southernmost extremity of an extensive reservoir, which is part of yet another national park.

Sri Nagarind National Park

This park covers 1,532 square kilometres. Park headquarters are 105 kilometres from Kanchanaburi. Major park attractions include the lovely 7-tiered Huay Kamin Waterfall, boat trips on the scenic reservoir, and encroaching deciduous forest and bamboo groves where kingfishers, parrots, bee-eaters, hornbills, woodpeckers, thrushes, babblers and numerous other bird species are readily seen. Larger, more elusive mammals within the park's remoter areas include deer, elephants and tigers. Phra and Niramit Caves near the park headquarters comprise other attractions. Bungalow accommodation is available. The park's relative inaccessibility necessitates either a punishing 40-kilometre drive along a dry weather track, and negotiable only by motorcycles, pickups or 4-wheel-drive vehicles, or a 45-75-minute boat ride from the Tha Kradan Pier 24 kilometres north of the Sri Nagarind Dam.

OPPOSITE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM:
The scenic Huay Kamin waterfall in Sri Nagarind national park, and the Khmer Prasat Muang Singh, the westernmost Khmer outpost in Thailand



Special Interests

National Parks

Kanchanaburi's aforementioned parks offer opportunities for either camping, and/or fishing, or trekking along nature trails. Camping facilities, which customarily provide cold running water and simple toilet facilities, are available at Chaloe M Rattanakosin, Sai Yok and Erawan national parks. Trekking along either well-defined waterfall trails, or nature trails, to visit caves or appreciate local flora and fauna is a popular activity at all national parks.

Fishing

This is popular on both Kwai rivers, and the Khao Laem and Sri Nagarind reservoirs. Several raft resorts offer hired rods. Edible and popular fish include the Giant Gourami, the Transverse Bellbarb, the Giant Snakehead Fish and the Striped Tiger Nandid. Each is delicious when freshly cooked, either simply fried or in Thai culinary styles.

Rafting

Trips are available from the provincial capital and several holiday resorts. Raft trips leaving from the famous bridge, or the waterfront Song Kwai Road area, cost between 2,000 and 4,500 baht for 10-15 persons, depending on durations and destinations. Trips may entail 7-10 hour return journeys, or include an overnight stay on either the Kwai Yai or Kwai Noi rivers. Visitors are advised to contact TAT's Kanchanaburi office for current information and prices.

Rail Trips

Railway enthusiasts may travel along one of Southeast Asia's most historical tracks, namely the surviving stretch of the 'Death Railway', from the provincial capital to the Nam Tok Railway Station near the Sai Yok Noi Waterfall. The winding track crosses the world-famous bridge and provides a clear indication of how difficult constructing the original

track (long since repaired and restored) must have been. One particularly exhilarating stretch sees the line parallel the curving Kwai Noi on a wooden viaduct towering above the river and hugging a steep, cave-ridden cliff

Golf

Golf has become very popular in recent years and can be enjoyed at the courses listed below. Most offer clubhouse, pro shop and caddy facilities, and have rental equipment. Green fees vary widely, weekends generally being more expensive. Unless otherwise specified, courses listed below are each 18-hole, par 72.

Green World Hot Spring Resort & Golf Club

Km 107 Kanchanaburi-Thong Pha Phum Road

Tel: (02) 539-4613, 539-2865-6

Grand Garden & Golf Club

Ladya, Muang, Kanchanaburi

Tel: (02) 243-5816-7, 249-0742-3

Khao Laem Golf Course (9 holes)

Thong Pha Phum Tel: (034) 599-077

Sri Nagarind Golf Course (9 holes)

Sri Sawat Tel: (034) 513-000

Nichigo Resort & Country Club

Ladya, Muang, Kanchanaburi

Tel: (02) 235-3034-8

Barrington Saiyok & Sports Club

Singha, Sai Yok

Tel: (02) 541-4252-6 Fax (02) 541-4257

Mission Hill Golf Club

Nong Tak Ya, Tha Muang, Kanchanaburi

Tel: (02) 222-5514, 226-3390, (01) 312-0711-2

River Kwai Golf & Country Club

Ban Wang Mai, Sai Yok

Tel: (02) 279-5040, 279-5058 (034) 591-037

Evergreen Hills Golf Club

152 Mu 5, Tha Muang, Kanchanaburi

Tel: (02) 512-0294-6

Home Phu Toey Golf Resort

Ban Phu Toey, Sai Yok

Tel: (02) 280-3488-9



TOURIST MAP OF KANCHANABURI



RI

G KOT PROJECT

SUPHANBURI

LAOKWAN

PHANOMTHUAN

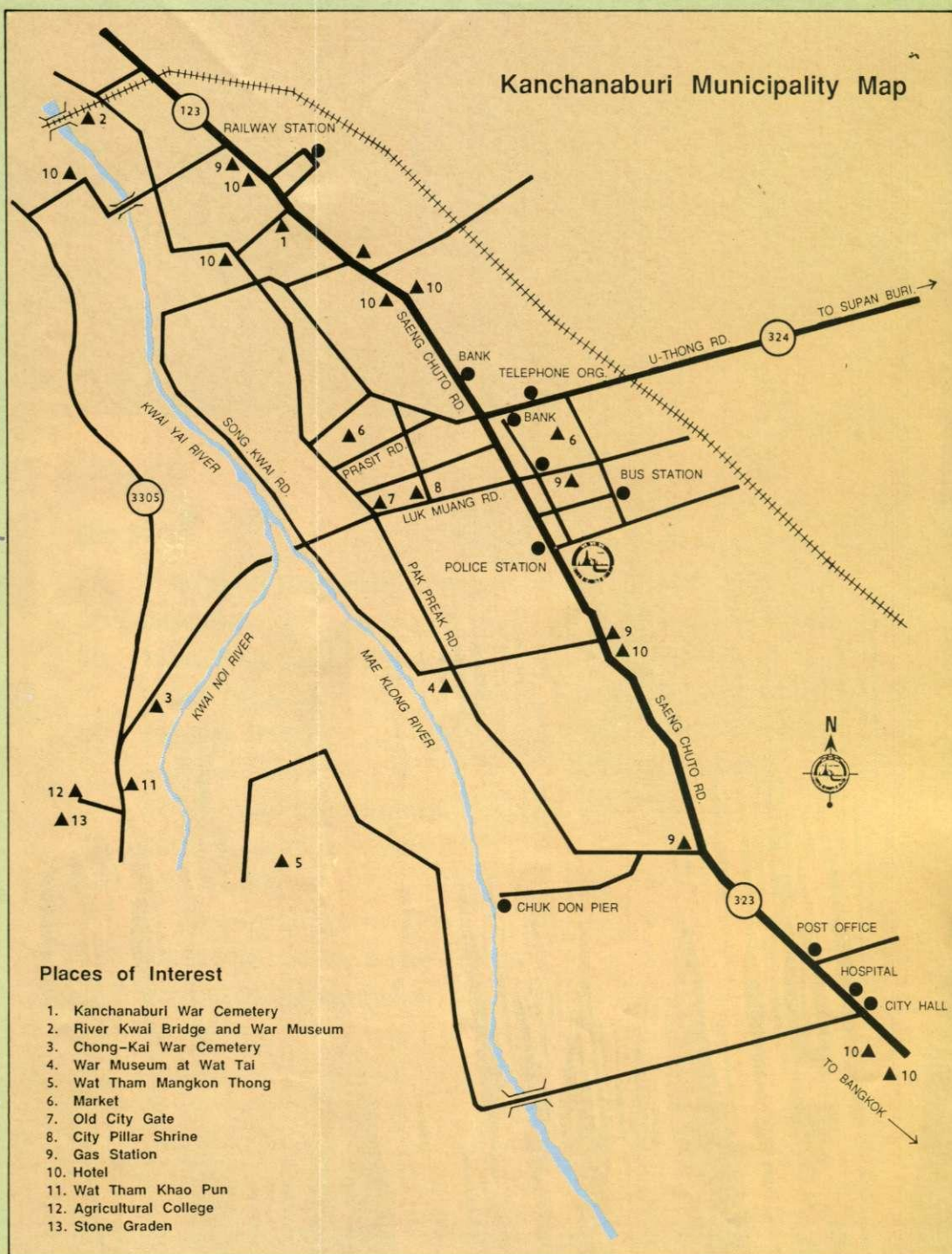
THA MUANG

THA MAK

YACHIRAIONGKORN DAM

RATCHABURI

Kanchanaburi Municipality Map





Major Events

Boat & Raft Day

Local long-boat teams race boats with great gusto at the waterfront area of the provincial Kwai Yai River to celebrate 'Boat & Raft Day', generally during October.

River Kwai Bridge Week

Each year, late November and/or early December, the world-famous bridge becomes the focal point of celebrations. Highlights include exhibitions and historical and archeological displays; a carnival featuring sideshows, roundabouts, folk entertainment and cultural performances; rides on trains hauled by World War II vintage steam locomotives; and a nightly light & sound presentation re-enacting the bridge's Second World War history, including an Allied bombing raid.

Thai Etiquette

What is considered polite in your country is probably considered polite in Thailand, too.

However, there are a few cultural pitfalls, mainly social and religious taboos, the breaking of which can cause offence.

For example, Thais revere their royal family. Even social malcontents, who ignore legal and community standards, refuse to tolerate a faintly implied slur on the monarchy,

Outward expressions of anger are regarded as

OPPOSITE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM:
Fireworks explode above the world-famous bridge, a WWII-vintage steam locomotive, and some of the local jewellery which comprises a perpetually popular purchase



crude and boorish. Visitors who remain calm and smile will find all sorts of doors opened to them.

Visitors should dress neatly in all religious shrines. They should never go shirtless, or in shorts, hot pants or other unsuitable attire.

Shoes should be removed when entering a private Thai home, a Buddhist temple chapel, any of the Islamic community's mosques.

Each Buddha image, large or small, ruined or not, is regarded as a sacred object. Never climb onto one to take a photograph or do anything which might indicate a lack of respect.

Public displays of affection between men and women are frowned upon. Westernised Thai couples may hold hands, but that's as far as it goes in public.

It is considered rude to point your foot at a person or object.

Thais regard the head as the highest part of the body, literally and figuratively. Therefore, they do not appreciate anyone patting them there, even as a friendly gesture.

Thais customarily ask questions which are regarded elsewhere as being personal. If the visitor is asked, 'Where are you going?' or 'How much do you earn?' such questions are asked in a friendly manner and signify genuine interest. Joking answers such as, 'I'm not sure' or 'Never enough!' are perfectly acceptable.

Transportation

Transportation To Kanchanaburi

Kanchanaburi is connected by daily road and rail services with Bangkok and other neighbouring provinces

Airconditioned and regular coaches leave Bangkok's Southern Bus Terminal throughout the day for the 2 to 3-hour journey.

Trains leave the Bangkok Noi Railway Station daily for Kanchanaburi.

The TAT office in Kanchanaburi issues an updated and current timetable for bus and rail services

between Bangkok and Kanchanaburi, and major neighbouring provinces.

Travel Within Kanchanaburi

Transportation within the provincial capital is most enjoyable on tricycles. These can be hired at the rate of approximately 150 baht for two to three hours, enabling visitors to see the Bridge over the River Kwai, the Kanchanaburi War Cemetery, the waterfront Song Kwai Road area, and the JEATH War Museum in one circuit.

Motorcycles or jeeps can be rented on a daily or weekly basis at several outlets on Saeng Chuto Road, beside the TAT Kanchanaburi office, and around the Song Kwai Road area. Visitors are advised to shop around since hire rates and conditions vary, and to check with the TAT office for prevailing rates.

The boat trip to the Lawa Cave and Sai Yok Yai Waterfall from the Pak Saeng Pier in Tambon Tha Sao takes around 4 hours for the return trip, and costs between 1,000 and 1,500 baht per boat, each with a seating capacity of 10 to 12 persons.

The 45-70-minute boat ride to Sri Nagarind National Park headquarters, from the Tha Kradan Pier, costs 1,500 baht upwards, again on boats with seating capacities of 10 to 12 persons.

Visitors are advised to check with the TAT office in Kanchanaburi for prevailing rates and the availability of alternate methods of transportation, such as on public holidays and weekends.

Shopping

Major souvenir shops are concentrated around the eastern approaches, and riverine environment, of the world-famous bridge. Almost every handicraft produced in Thailand can be purchased there. Browsing to compare quality, and good-humoured but determined bargaining, will ensure favourable prices for readymade leisurewear and other apparel, and popular souvenirs such as bamboo musical instruments, palm leaf mobiles, ceramic decorations, lacquerware and bronzeware receptacles, paper para-

sols, and Thai silk and cotton lengths.

Kanchanaburi is a major source of high-quality Thai blue sapphires. These are mined at Ban Phloi, as are onyx and topaz. Purchases of finished jewellery creations can be made at Ban Phloi's Jewellery Handicraft Centre and other satellite outlets.

Dining

Western cuisine is rarely found beyond hotel coffeeshops and guest house or resort dining rooms. Excellent Thai and Chinese cuisine prominently features freshly caught river fish. The most popular dining areas are the Song Kwai Road waterfront area and the riverine restaurants in the vicinity of the River Kwai Bridge. In both areas, several restaurants, some on rafts, offer comprehensive menus. Live music is often frequently offered, particularly in the Song Kwai Road area.

See *SELECT RESTAURANT LIST* on page 32

Accommodation

Kanchanaburi offers airconditioned hotels and resorts, bungalows, guest houses and riverside rafts within the provincial capital. River raft accommodation is also available in several natural locations, alongside both rivers and the Khao Laem and Sri Nagarind reservoirs.

Visitors wishing to stay at any of Kanchanaburi's national parks are advised to book beforehand, particularly if they wish to make weekend or public holiday outings. Reservations should be made through Bangkok's National Parks Division of the Royal Forestry Department (Tel: 579-5025, 579-4842).

Visitors wishing to stay at Khao Laem or Srinagarind Dams must make reservations through the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT) in Bangkok, Tel: 436-3179, 424-4794.

Provincial Capital

River Kwai Hotel

248 Saeng Chuto Road

Tel: 511-184, 511-565, 515-548-9 (02) 2516970, 251-0088 Fax: 511-269, (02) 251-6070

Rates: 1,400-1,600 baht (per night)

Felix River Kwai Resort

99/11 Mu 3 Tambon Thamakharn

Tel: 515-061-87, (02) 255-9410-9

Fax: 515-095, 515-086, 515-760

Rates: 2,000-3,000 baht

Thai Seree Hotel

142 Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 511-128, 511-346

Rates: 200-250 baht

Sinsomboon Hotel

1/11 Mu 6, nr Chinda Bridge, Tambon Kaeng

Saen Tel: 513-218

Rates: 400-700 baht

Sri Muang Kan Hotel

1-3 Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 511-609

Rates: 170-350 baht

Mittaphan Hotel

201/244 Mu 2 Saeng Chuto Road

Tel: 514-498, 515-803-7 (02) 291-9953-4

Fax: (02) 289-0302

Rates: 1,000-2,000 baht VIP 5,000 baht

Pavillion Rim Kwai Resort

Km 9 Kanchanaburi-Ladya Road

Tel: (02) 255-3296, 252-2211, 515-772-4

Fax: 515-774

Rate: 2,700 baht

Clarion Resort

18/9 Mu 5 Tambon Ladya

Tel: (02) 287-0123 Fax: (02) 286-2881

Khao Tong View Hotel

U-Thong Road

Tel: 511-595, 516-052, 511-669 Fax: 511-669

Rates: 300-350 baht

Baanpoonsap Sunseeker

140 Mu 4 Tambon Ladya

Tel: (02) 379-1024, 379-0980

Fax: (02) 379-1024

Rates: 800-1,000 baht

River Inn

249 Saeng Chuto Road Tel 514-633

Rates: 400-800 baht

BUNGALOWS**Boon Yong Bungalow**

75 Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 512-598, 511-196

Rates: 140-230 baht

Wang Tong Bungalow

249 Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 511-046

Rates: 160-240 baht

Ban-Bo Bungalow

91/11 Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 511-760

Rates: 100-180 baht

Suksan Bungalow

Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 512-263, 513-214,

513-213 Rates: 250-600 baht

Underground Motel

300/1 Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 511-258

Rates: 250-350 baht VIP 1,000-1,500 baht

Thip Wree Bungalow

221/1-4 Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 511-063

Rates: 100-150 baht

Sri Rung Rueng Bungalow

1/2 Chaokhunnen Street Tel: 511-087

Rates: 150-200 baht

Sri Charoensuk Bungalow

47/1 Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 511-783

Rates: 120-200 baht

Don Ruk Bungalow

313/19 Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 513-755

Rates: 100-250 baht

Luxery Bungalow

284/1-5 Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 511-168

Rates: 100-300 baht

Kitcharoen Bungalow

284/13 Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 511-802

Rates: 100-200 baht

Prasobsuk Bungalow

677 Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 511-777, 511-411

Rates: 110-240 baht

Tewin Town Motel

124 Patthanakan Road, Tambon Thamakharm

Rate: 500 baht

Maitreechit Bungalow

100/4 Mu 10 U-tong Road Tel: 512-374

Rates: 80-90 baht

RAFT HOUSES AND GUEST HOUSES**Nita Raft House**

27/1 Tambon Ban Tai Tel: 514-521

Rates: 40-100 baht

Suphakorn Chai Raft House

7/4 Tambon Ban Noue Tel: 512-055

Rates: 200-350 baht

Sam's Place

7/3 Tambon Ban Noue Tel: 513-971

Rates: 150-250 baht

Nittaya Raft House

7/2 Tambon Ban Noue Tel: 513-341

Rates: 50-150 baht

P.S. Guest House

84/4 Tambon Ban Noue Tel: 513-039

Rates: 70-100 baht

Rick's Lodge

45/3 Tambon Ban Noue Tel: 514-813

Rate: 250 baht

Jolly Frog

28 Maenum Kwai Road Tel: 514-579

Rates: 50-130 baht

V.N. Guest House

44 Ban Noue

Mr.Tee Guest House

12 Patthanakan Road: Rates: 100-150 baht

River Guest House

Tambon Ban Noue Tel: 512-491

Rates: 40, 70, 100 baht

Bamboo House

5 Patthanakan Road Tel: 512-532

Rates: 100-400 baht

V.L. Guest House

18/11 Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 513-546, 513-548

Rates: 120-250 baht

C & C Guest House

265/2 Maenam Kwai Road Tel: (02) 937-5567,

624-547-8 Rates 100-150 baht

RESORTS

Kasem's Island Resort

27 Tambon Ban Tai

Tel: 513-359, (02) 255-6303

Rates: 500-650 baht

River Kwai Honey Well Resort

208 Mu 2 Patthanakan Road

Tel: 515-143, 515-850, (02) 221-5472

Rates: 600-1,200 baht

Phu Kan Hometel

209 Patthanakan Road Tel: 512-282

Rates: 650, 950, 2,500 baht

River Kwai Lodge

164 Mu 2 Patthanakan Road

Tel: 513-657, (02) 251-4377, 251-7646

Rates: 800-1,000 baht

Suan Prasopsook Garden Resort

6/1 Patthanakan Road Tel: 513-215,, 513-219

Rates: 500, 600, 1,000, 2,000 baht

Thadthong

193/1 Mu 3 Tambon Thamakharm

Tel: (01) 211-1954 Rates: 600-800 baht

Kwai Noi Island Resort

103 Mu 4 Tambon Wang Yen

Tel: (01) 313-0402, (02) 583-2946

Rate: 600 baht

Ban Rai Rim Kwai Resort

Mu 1 Tambon Ban Kao Tel: 375-1822

Rates: 800-1,200 baht

Log Home Resort

29/1 Mu 2 Tambon Pak-Praek Tel: 513-258

Rates: 700-1,400 baht

Duen Shine Resort

99/9 Mu 3 Tambon Thamakharm

Tel: 513-611-2, (02) 418-1720

Rates: 600-1,500 baht

IN SAI YOK DISTRICT

River Kwai Village Hotel

72 Mu 4 Tambon Thasao

Tel: 591-055, 251-7552, 251-7828

Rates: 1,200-2,200 baht

Home Phu Toey Resort

Ban Phu Toey Tel: (02) 280-3488-9

Rates: 1,800-2,300 baht

River Kwai Cabin

Tambon Lumsum

Tel: 591-073, (02) 433-6688, 433-6963

Rate: 680 baht

Sai Yok Hill Family Resort

Tambon Lumsum Tel: (02) 382-0426-32

Rates: 2,200-6,000 baht

River Kwai Jungle House

Tambon Lumsum Tel: 561-052, 561-429

Rate: 680 baht

Jungle Raft

Sai Yok Tel: 245-3069, 247-5373 Rate: 650 baht

Sai Yok Valley Resort

61/1 Tambon Lumsum

Tel: 591-024, (02) 538-9934, 539-3531

Rates: 900-4,800 baht

Resotel Kanglawea Resort

Tel: 591-036, (02) 279-5177

Pung Waan Resort

123 Tambon Tha Sao Tel 591-017-8,

281-3221-5 Rates: 1,700-1,900 baht

Saowakhon Camping

Tambon Singha Tel: (02) 413-1981, 413-0158

Rate: 500 baht

Wang Singha Resort

144/3 Mu 1 Tambon Singha Tel: 561-577.

(01) 312-0682 Rates: 1,200-1,400 baht

Kan-Da Resort

Mu 1 Tambon Singha Tel: (02) 454-0784-6

River Kwai Cliff House

224/1 Mu 1 Tambon Lumsum Tel: 591-014

Rate: 500 baht

Kitti Raft

Pak Saaeng Pier Tambon Tha Sao

Tel: 591-106

Rate: 500 baht

Phantawee Raft Tel: 512-572, 514--153

Sai Yok View Raft

Rom Sak Raft

near Sai Yok Waterfall (Sai Yok National Park)

IN THONG PHA PHUM DISTRICT

Srithong Pha Phum Bungalow

78/7 Mu 1 Tambon Thakhanon Tel: 599--058
Rates: 128-235 baht

Som Jai Nuk Bungalows

28/1 Mu 1 Tambon Thakhanon
Tel: 599-067, 559-001 Rates: 160-600 baht

Banchaideaen Phu Pha Pum

Tambon Thakhanon Tel: 599-063, 599-048
Rates: 550-1,000 baht

Bangkok Flower Centre

277 Mu 1 Tambon Thakhanon
Tel: 599-108, 599-037 Rates: 500-1,200 baht

IN KHAO LAEM DAM AREA

Pha Phung Raft/Rates: 1,680-2,100

Wang Pai Chalet/Rates: 500, 700, 2,500 baht

Chom Chan Raft Chao Kheun Raft

Weekend Garden Resort

Tel: 514-707, (02) 411-0194

Rate: 100 baht (per person)

Ran Tee Palace

Tel: 591-036, (02) 279-5040

Rates: 1,550-1,950 baht per person, including meals

VIP Raft/Tel: 599-001 **Kao Laem Raft**

Kao Laem Resort/Tel: (02) 277-0589

Rim Khuen Raft/Tel: 599-090

Ban Suan Thaweechai Pha Phum

Tel: 561-335 Rates: 500-1,500 baht

Gold Cliff Resort

Tel: 599-026 Rates: 400-800 baht

Ban Rim Doi Resort

Tambon Thakhanon Tel: 513-218, 511-045,
511-897, 513-328

Thong Pha Phum Valley/Tambon Thakhanon

IN SANGKLA BURI DISTRICT

Sri Daeng Hotel

Tambon Nong Loo Tel: 595-026, 595-088
Rates: 120-300 baht VIP 800 baht

Sam Prasob Resort

Mu 3 Tambon Nong Loo Tel: 595-050

Rates: 200-500 baht

Burmese Inn

52/3 Tambon Nong Loo Rates: 45-60 baht

P Guest House

81 Mu 1 Tambon Nong Loo Tel: 595-061, 595-140

Sangkla Garden

Tambon Nong Loo Tel: 595-096, 595-070

Rates: 600-1,200 baht

Song Ka Lia Resort & River Hut

Tambon Nong Loo Tel: 595-023-4

Three Pagoda Resort

28 Mu 9 Tambon Nong Loo (near Three Pagodas
Pass) Tel: (02) 412-4159, 412-6578

Rates: 600-1,200 baht

IN SRI SAWAT DISTRICT

Tham Than Lot National Park

Tel: (02) 579-4842, 579-0529

Great Lake Resort

2 Mu 1 Tambon Tha Kradan Tel: (02) 437-0086,
437-2487 Rates: 800-1,200 baht

General Resort/226 Mu 4 Tambon Tha Kradan

Pha-Eung Resort

98 Mu 4 Tambon Tha Kradan Tel: (01) 213-1025

Kwai Yai Hilton Park

near Erawan Waterfall Tel: (02) 421-3179

Rates: 500-1,000 baht

Pha Daeng Resort

near Erawan Waterfall Tel: 513-349

Rates: 400-1,000 baht

Erawan Resort

near Erawan Waterfall Tel: 513-568

Rom Klao Raft

Tambon Tha Kradan Tel: (02) 254-3534, 597-048

General Information

Tourist Information

The Tourism Authority of Thailand's Kanchanaburi office is open seven days a week throughout the year, even on public and national holidays, from 8.30 AM until 4.30 PM.

Tourist Police

Bi-lingual tourist police are attached to the TAT office on Saeng Chuto Road to provide speedy assistance to visitors in cases of emergencies (Tel:512-795).

Banks

Foreign exchange services are available at the following banks:

Thai Military Bank

160/34 Saeng Chuto Road, Ban Noue Village
Tel: 531-677

Bangkok Bank

2 U-Thong Road, Ban Noue Village
Tel: 511-111, 511-212, 512-710

Thai Farmers Bank

160/80-2 Saeng Chuto Road, Ban Noue Village
Tel: 511-203, 511-774

Government Offices

These are generally open between 8.30 AM and 4.30 PM, with a noon to 1.00 PM lunchbreak, Monday through Friday, except on public holidays.

USEFUL ADDRESSES

SELECT RESTAURANTS

Thong Nathee Restaurant

Song Kwae Street Tel: 512-944

Pae Ban Noue Restaurant

Song Kwae Street Tel: 512-326

J.R .Queen Restaurant

33 Chai Chumpol Street, Ban Tai
Tel: 511-221, 511-864

Mae Nam Restaurant

Song Kwae Street Tel: 512-811

Pae Kan Restaurant

Song Kwae Street Tel: 513-251

River Cafe River Kwai Hotel

Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 511-565

In Town Cafe

Commercial Centre, Saeng Chuto Road
Tel: 511-238

River Kwai & Sai Yok Restaurants

near Bridge Over The River Kwai
Tel: 512-540-1, and 512-702 respectively

HEALTH & TRAVEL

Paholpolpayuhasena Hospital

Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 511-233

Preeshaweth Hospital

Saebg Chuto Road Tel: 611-683

Makarak Hospital

Saeng Chuto Road Tel:541-115

Kanchanaburi X-Ray Lab

6-8 Kumuang Street, Ban Noue Village
Tel:511-970

Manas Karn Phaet Clinic

160/45 Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 511-066

Jiraporn Dental Clinic

55 Bovorn Street, Ban Noue Village
Tel: 511-986

Tharn Rong Clinic

160/247 Saeng Chuto Road Tel:512-242

Prasop Dental Clinic

98/3 Bovorn Street, Ban Noue Village
Tel: 513-303

Sayarn Karn Phaet Clinic

81 Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 512-088

Provincial Police Headquarters

Saeng Chuto Road, Ban Noue Village
Tel: 511-540

Immigration Office

11/22 Mae Klong Road, Pak Praek Village
Tel: 513-325

Kanchanaburi Railway Station

Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 511-265

The Transport Company Limited

Saeng Chuto Road Tel: 511-387

B.T. Travel

Saeng Chute Road (behind TAT office)
Tel: 511-967

NOTE: While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this brochure, prices, telephone numbers and addresses are subject to change without notice. Accordingly, visitors are advised to check with the Kanchanaburi TAT office for current information

Neighbouring Provinces

Nakhon Pathom

This province is best known for the Phra Pathom Chedi, some 60 kilometres west of Bangkok, and the world's tallest Buddhist monument. The 114-metre-high orange-tiled chedi marks the spot where Buddhism was introduced, some 2,300 years ago, to the Thailand-to-be. The chedi is an architectural masterpiece, surrounded by tree-shaded galleries and cloisters, and dominates the surrounding countryside. Each November, the chedi hosts a popular fair where the religious and temporal combine in merit-making ceremonies, entertainment stalls, folk operas and general merriment.

The Province is also known for the Rose Garden, a popular riverside country club some 60 minutes west of Bangkok, and the nearby Samphran Crocodile Farm.

Ratchaburi

40 minutes south of Nakhon Pathom is Damnoen Saduak, the nearest popular floating market to Bangkok where, early each morning, farmers congregate in produce-laden boats to trade in fresh market produce such as vegetables, spices, fruits and poultry.

Suphan Buri

Returning to Bangkok from Kanchanaburi, along Route 324, travellers may visit the Don Chedi Memorial where a white pagoda and a statue of Ayutthaya's warrior king, Naresuan the Great, mark the king's victory, at that spot, in single combat on elephant back, over the Burmese Crown Prince in 1592. The victory is celebrated each year in January with week-long festivities, including re-enactment of war-elephant combat.

